

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held at the Quality Inn Beachside, 931 West Beach Boulevard, Gulf Shores, AL; telephone: 800-844-6913.

**Council address:** Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting will be to review management alternatives being considered by the Council as part of Draft Amendment 16 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Reef Fish in the Gulf of Mexico. Amendment 16 readdresses a 2-year phase-out of fish traps with allowances for retention of reef fish species taken in spiny lobster and stone crab traps; however, if the Council continues the present 10-year phase-out, this amendment also includes options for reducing the number of traps being fished over time. This amendment considers size limits, including a slot limit, and bag limits for some lesser amberjack species. Additionally, alternatives are presented that could effect the Council's continued management of sand perch, dwarf sand perch, queen triggerfish, and hog fish. Amendment 16 includes consideration of compatible size and bag limits with the state of Florida for various reef fish species, as well as additional regulations of speckled hind and warsaw grouper. Language that would modify the Framework Procedure for setting total allowable catch is also included.

The Law Enforcement AP will also review a Draft Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources (Mackerels). Draft Amendment 9 addresses a number of problems that have been discussed in the past, as well as recent concerns that have developed with regard to allocations and a derby fishery for king mackerel. Amendment 9 includes alternatives that would:

1. Modify the fishing year;
2. Prohibit sale of king and Spanish mackerel;
3. Require mandatory reporting;
4. Reallocate the king mackerel total allowable catch (TAC) by area in the Eastern Zone and user group (commercial/recreational);
5. Further subdivide the hook-and-line allocation of TAC for king mackerel on the west coast of Florida by area and/or season;
6. Establish subdivisions of the Western Zone allocation of TAC for king mackerel by area and/or season;

7. Establish trip limits for Gulf group king mackerel in the Western Zone;

8. Provide for further restrictions on the net fishery for king mackerel;

9. Increase the minimum size limit for king mackerel and/or establish a maximum size limit; and

10. Reestablish a purse seine allocation for Gulf group Spanish mackerel.

In addition to these draft amendments, the Law Enforcement AP will review the status of implementation of Amendment 9 to the Shrimp FMP and Amendment 15 to the Reef Fish FMP, as well as problems with having a "paper trail" to track imported seafood.

In a joint session with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Law Enforcement Committee, which is comprised of basically the same members, the Law Enforcement AP will receive information from NMFS regarding its penalty schedule and a report on the use of satellite transponders to track fishing vessels. It will also receive enforcement reports from the individual Gulf States.

The Law Enforcement AP consists of chief enforcement agents for the state and Federal fishery agencies in the Gulf area who advise the Council on fishery issues.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Panel action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by October 8, 1997.

Dated: September 22, 1997.

**Bruce Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072197E]

### Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Issuance of photography permit no. 867-1388.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Moana Productions, Inc., 311 Portluck Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825, has been issued a permit to take by Level B harassment several species of non-threatened, non-endangered marine mammals for purposes of commercial photography.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Protected Species Program Manager, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106 Honolulu, HI 96822-2396 (808/973-2987), and

Regional Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9731 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2434 (813/570-5301)

Director, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/585-7221).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 6, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 31083) that the above-named applicant had submitted a request for a permit to take several species of marine mammals by Level B Harassment during the course of commercial photographic activities in Hawaii and South Carolina waters. The required permit has been issued, under the authority of S104 (c) (6) of the Marine Mammals Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.).

Dated: July 25, 1997.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office Of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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